

Title: Nursing School Celebrates New Computer Equipment and Opening of General Hospital in Gao

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Description: *Ecole des Infirmiers de Gao* receives new computer equipment and celebrates opening of new general hospital in Gao

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Content:

The US ambassador to Mali, Terence McCulley, joined representatives of the Capacity Project, USAID/Mali and political authorities from the Gao region at a ceremony on May 14 to mark the delivery of computer equipment to the *Ecole des Infirmiers de Gao*.

Provided by the Capacity Project, the equipment is part of the nursing school's 2007-2012 strategic plan developed with assistance from the Project, and includes 15 desktop computers, two laptops, multimedia equipment, two printers, a scanner, headphones and USB drives. "With the support of the Capacity Project, we developed our 2007-2012 strategic plan and our vision is now clear," said Dr. Hamada Maiga, director of the *Ecole des Infirmiers de Gao*. He added, "We know where we are going and what we want." The new equipment will help strengthen the school's communications and technology capabilities in order to facilitate exchanges between members of the school community and the wider network beyond the school.

The Project is helping the school to become a training institute supported by the community and widely acknowledged as using innovative technologies to provide opportunities in pre-service education and in-service training to strengthen human resources for health in underserved northern regions of Mali.

Also on May 14, community members joined an inaugural ceremony for the new general hospital that is a key component of the nursing school's plan to provide an efficient training location for its students along with quality health care for the population. This hospital was founded by New Peak Foundation through USAID's request.

At the ceremony, Ambassador McCulley told the audience, "We would like to thank the Capacity Project for its local technical assistance at the *Ecole des Infirmiers de Gao*. I am sure it will help us solve the crisis in human resources for health in Northern Mali on a long-term basis." USAID/Mali Head of Health Team Christine Sow added, "It is a great pleasure and a pleasant duty for me to notice the accomplishments of activities we are financing through the Capacity Project."



Left to right : Dr. Demba Traoré, Ambassador Terence McCulley, Dr. Cheick Oumar Touré, Dr. Hamada Maiga, Christine Sow, Adama Touré



Official handover of computer equipment to the director of the school by Ambassador McCulley, with Dr. Cheick Oumar Touré and Christine Sow.